

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takehiro NIITSU et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Application

Filed: December 8, 2003

Docket No.: 118009

For: OPTICAL WIRING BOARD, OPTICAL BUS SYSTEM, AND METHOD OF  
MANUFACTURING OPTICAL WIRING BOARD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. (Ref. 1)
- ☒ 3. A concise explanation of relevance of non-English language reference 4 appears in the Appendix attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto. (Refs. 1-4)

- ☒ 5. Computer-generated English translations of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1-4.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY  
BETWEEN THE INVENTION AND MATERIALS

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2000-329962

This reference is described in the specification.

2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No.Hei.11-202149
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No.Hei.11-258447

We are enclosing herewith English translations of abstracts of these references provided by JPO and English abstracts of these references provided by EPO.

4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No.Hei.2003-114353

This reference is a publication (Japanese Ko-kai) of basic Japanese patent application. It should be noted that this reference does not constitute a prior art under 35 USC §102(a) because this reference is made by the same inventors.

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| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |   | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>118009           |                 | APPLICATION NO.<br>New U.S. Application |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |   |   |            | APPLICANT<br>Takehiro NIITSU et al. |                 |   |  |
|   |   |   |            | FILING DATE<br>December 8, 2003     |                 |   |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |   |   |            |                                     |                 |   |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE       | NAME                                | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                            |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |   |   |            |                                     |                 |   |  |
|   |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE       | COUNTRY                             | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                            |  |
|   | 1 | JP A 2000-329962 w/ abst & trans                  | 11/30/2000 | Japan                               |                 |   |  |
|   | 2 | JP A 11-258447 w/ abst & trans                    | 09/24/1999 | Japan                               |                 |   |  |
|   | 3 | JP A 11-202149 w/ abst & trans                    | 07/30/1999 | Japan                               |                 |   |  |
|   | 4 | JP A 2003-114353 w/ abst & trans                  | 04/18/2003 | Japan                               |                 |   |  |
|   |   |   |            |                                     |                 |   |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)  |   |   |            |                                     |                 |   |  |
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| EXAMINER  |   |   |            |                                     | DATE CONSIDERED |   |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |   |   |            |                                     |                 |   |  |

Date: December 8, 2003